

Message Text

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70

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

TRSE-00 SP-02 EB-03 H-01 L-01 PRS-01 /046 W

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R 091535Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6322

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSYALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 8876

LIMDIS

STATE FOR NEA/RA

COMMERCE FOR CAGNE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD BCOM PFOR EG

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL: ROCKWELL AND GE

REF: A. STATE 206907 (NOTAL) B. CAIRO 8471 (NOTAL) C. CAIRO 8637
(NOTAL)

1. EARLIER INQUIRIES TO INTREND (REF B), LOCAL ROCKWELL REPS,
HAVE PRODUCED FURTHER INFORMATION ON BOYCOTT OF COMPANY AS
REQUESTED REF A.

2. ACCORDING TO INTREND CHAIRMAN HUSSEIN ZAKI, ACTION
TAKEN AT BOYCOTT COMMISSION MEETING LAST MONTH WAS A
DECISION TO UNDERTAKE INVESTIGATION OF COMPANY'S ASSOCIATION
WITH ISRAEL (SEE BELOW). ROCKWELL HAS UNTIL END OF NOVEMBER
TO PROVE TERMINATION OF BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS OR FACE
BLACKLISTING. ACTION ON LATTER STEP CANNOT BE TAKEN BEFORE
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FEB 1976 MEETING.

3. BASES FOR COMMISSION INVESTIGATION ARE REPORTEDLY AS FOLLOWS:

A. NORTH AMERICAN, EVIDENTLY PRIOR TO MERGER WITH ROCKWELL, SOLD ISRAEL COMPLETE PLANS AND SPECS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PLANT TO BUILD AERO COMMANDER-TYPE EXECUTIVE AIRPLANES.

B. A JAPANESE COMPANY, NHK, IN WHICH ROCKWELL HAS AN UNSPECIFIED INTEREST, IS PRESENTLY SELLING SPRINGS FOR USE IN TRUCKS AND AUTOMOBILES.

4. IT ALSO APPEARS THAT ENGINES FOR ISRAELI EXECUTIVE PLANES ARE IN SOME WAY RELATED TO GE, WHICH IS WHY LATTER IS NOW ON LIST (REF C).

5. ZAKI AND ROCKWELL SENIOR ENGINEER GHARIBIAN, WHO IS TRAVELING THROUGH AREA, INTEND TO CALL HEAD OFFICES TONIGHT (SEPT 10) TO CONVEY ABOVE INFO AND DISCUSS STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO PREPARE DECLARATION FOR PRESENTATION TO BOYCOTT COMMISSION. (ECONCOUN ADVISED THEM OF REQUIREMENT TO INFORM COMMERCE OF CONTACT AND OF CURRENT CONCERNS IN US OVER ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN COMPANIES RELATED TO BOYCOTT QUESTION.) THEY STRESSED THAT ROCKWELL ALREADY HAS A JOINT VENTURE UNDERWAY IN EGYPT (OIL WELL HEADS ASSEMBLY, ETC. IN HELWAN) AND IS INVOLVED IN DISCUSSIONS ON ANOTHER (TRUCK AXLES FOR NASR AUTOMOTIVE). COMPANY ALSO DOES BUSINESS WITH OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES, WHICH THEY FEEL WILL BE IN THEIR FAVOR.

6. COMMENT: ZAKI IS CONVINCED THAT GOE IS NOT CONCERNED, AT LEAST AT THIS STAGE, OVER ROCKWELL'S POTENTIAL BLACKLISTING. HE REPORTS THAT HIS ACTIVITIES RELATED TO VARIOUS ASPECTS OF COMPANY'S BUSINESS HAVE IN NO WAY BEEN AFFECTED. THIS WOULD FIT GOE'S OVERALL ATTITUDE TOWARD BOYCOTT, AS WELL AS HOPES FOR CHANGE IN ATTITUDES OF OTHER ARABS.
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